

Doan Huy Chuong and Nguyen Hoang Quoc Hung

Adoption Status: Adopted by Representative Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

Country: Vietnam

Occupation: Respected Vietnamese labor activists.

Detained Since: Early 2010

Charges: Disrupting national security

Sentence: Doan was sentenced to seven years in prison and Nguyen to nine years in prison.

Additional: Government authorities arrested Doan and Nguyen shortly after they helped organize workers at the My Phong shoe factory in Vietnam, where they distributed a leaflet outlining striking workers' demands. Authorities held the two organizers for eight months before charging them with threatening national security. On October 28, 2010, 10 days after their indictment, the People's Court of Tra Vinh convicted them and sentenced Doan to seven years in prison and Nguyen to nine years in prison. The organizers were not permitted legal counsel or the opportunity to speak in their own defense. Although they were allowed a lawyer on appeal, the sentence was affirmed by the same court after another closed proceeding.

Throughout their detentions, Doan and Nguyen have been subjected to serious mistreatment. After arresting them, the government held them in solitary confinement for months. They have been the victims of repeated beatings, which often occur after one of their frequent prison transfers. As a result, Doan has lost the use of one hand. Despite continued poor health—including rashes and liver problems—they are forced to endure hard labor.



Adopted